

*Spot-4 (Take 5) workshop
October 2nd & 3rd 2013, Toulouse*

Phenological monitoring of tropical forest ecosystems (North of Congo)

Gond, V., Gourlet-Fleury, S., Cornu, G., Kleinschroth, F., Mortier, F.

CIRAD

**Forest ecosystems goods and services
Montpellier**



CONTEXT

- Central African forests cover 1,6 Mkm² and are of prime importance at the atmosphere/biosphere interface
- At this time we have a poor knowledge of these forest ecosystems
- These ecosystems are complex with spatial (forest types) and temporal (phenology) heterogeneities

HYPOTHESIS

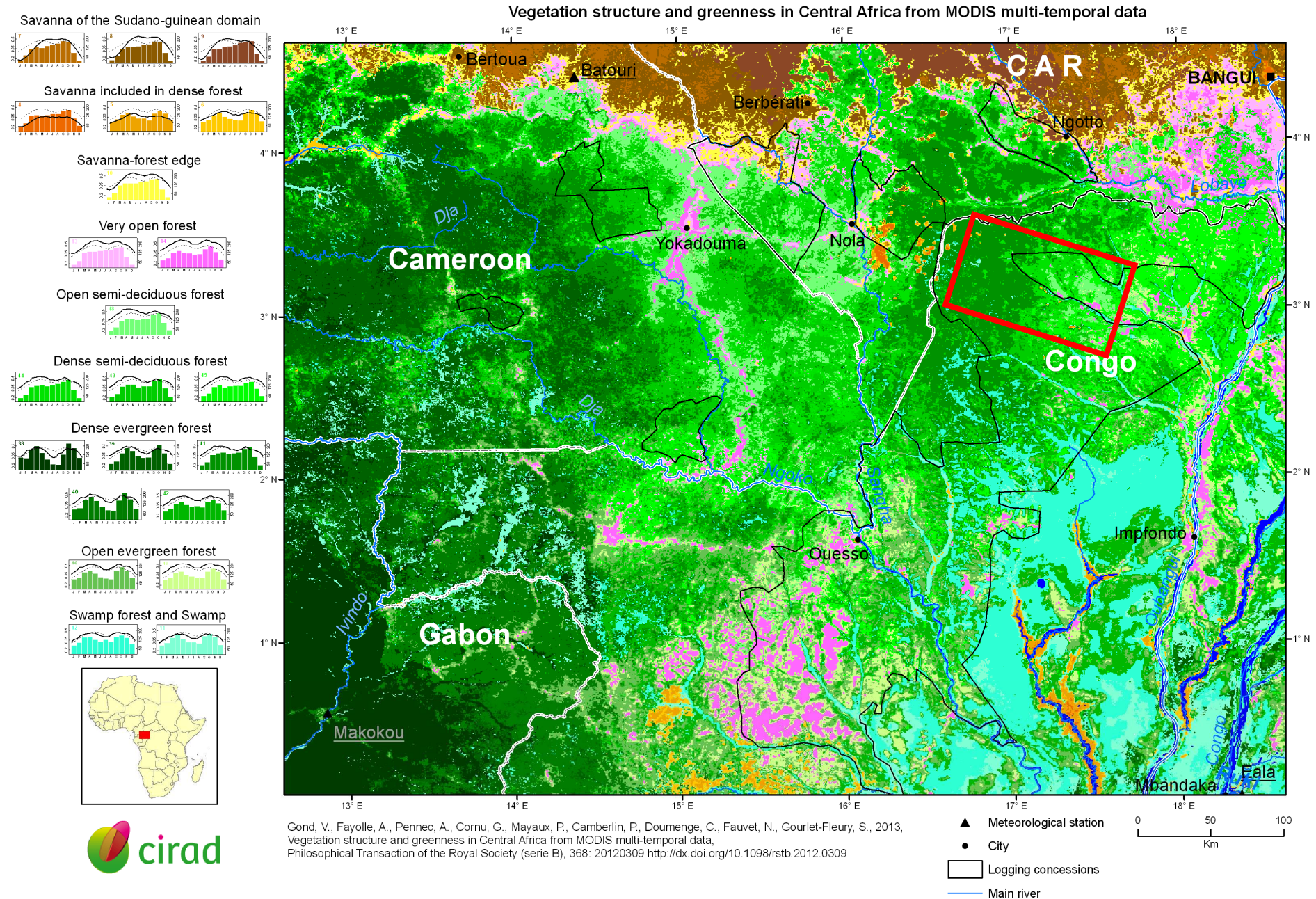
- Without accurate characterization of these ecosystems we will be poorly prepared to adopt sustainable management to face global changes (social changes and climate changes)

OBJECTIVE

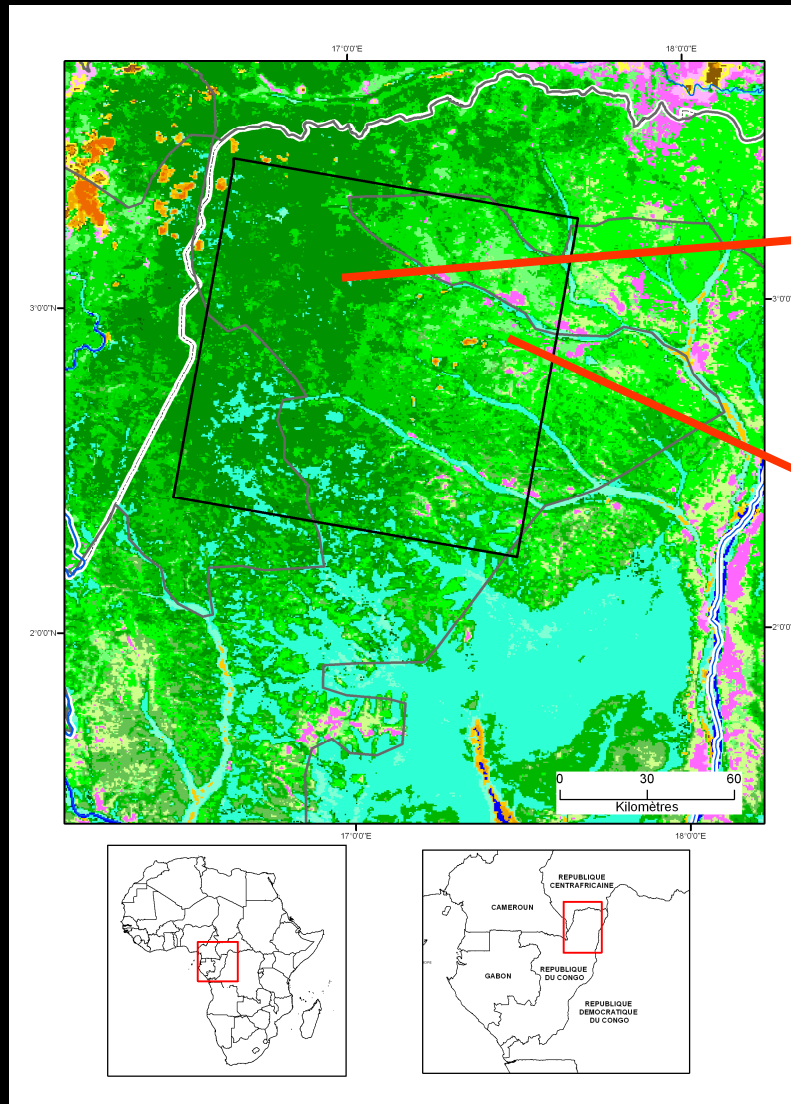
- Improving Central African forests knowledge by mapping spatial patterns of structure and greenness using satellite images



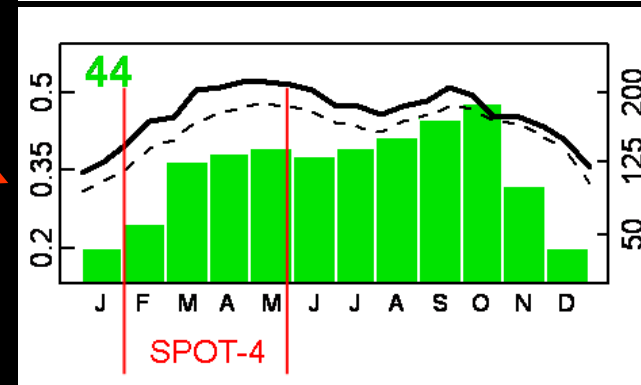
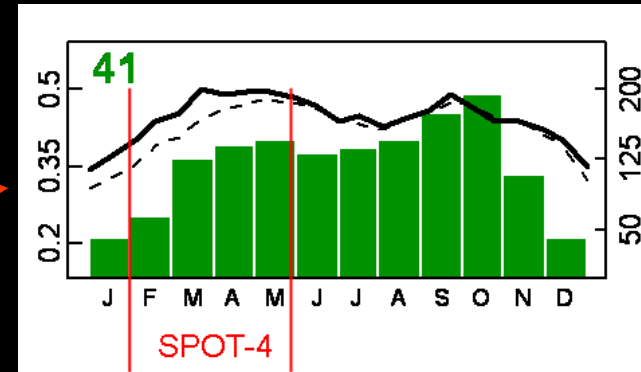
Central African forests characterization



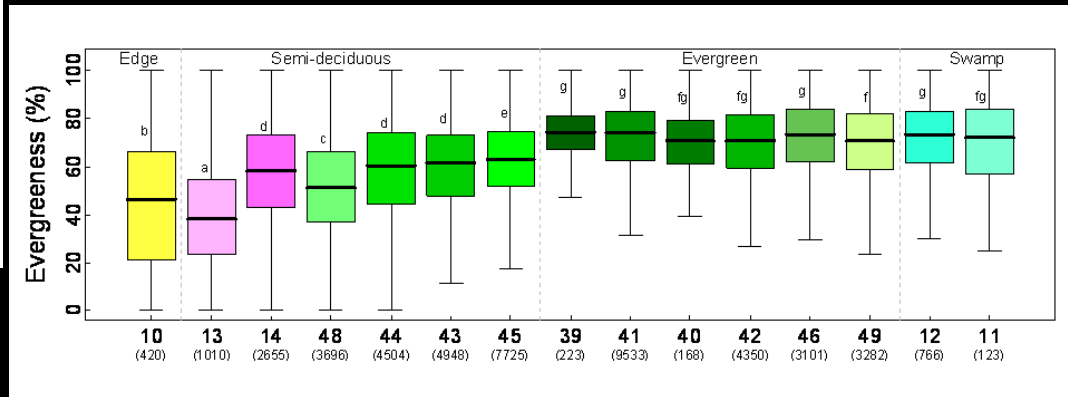
Different phenologies for different forest types



Evergreen forests (<30% deciduous)



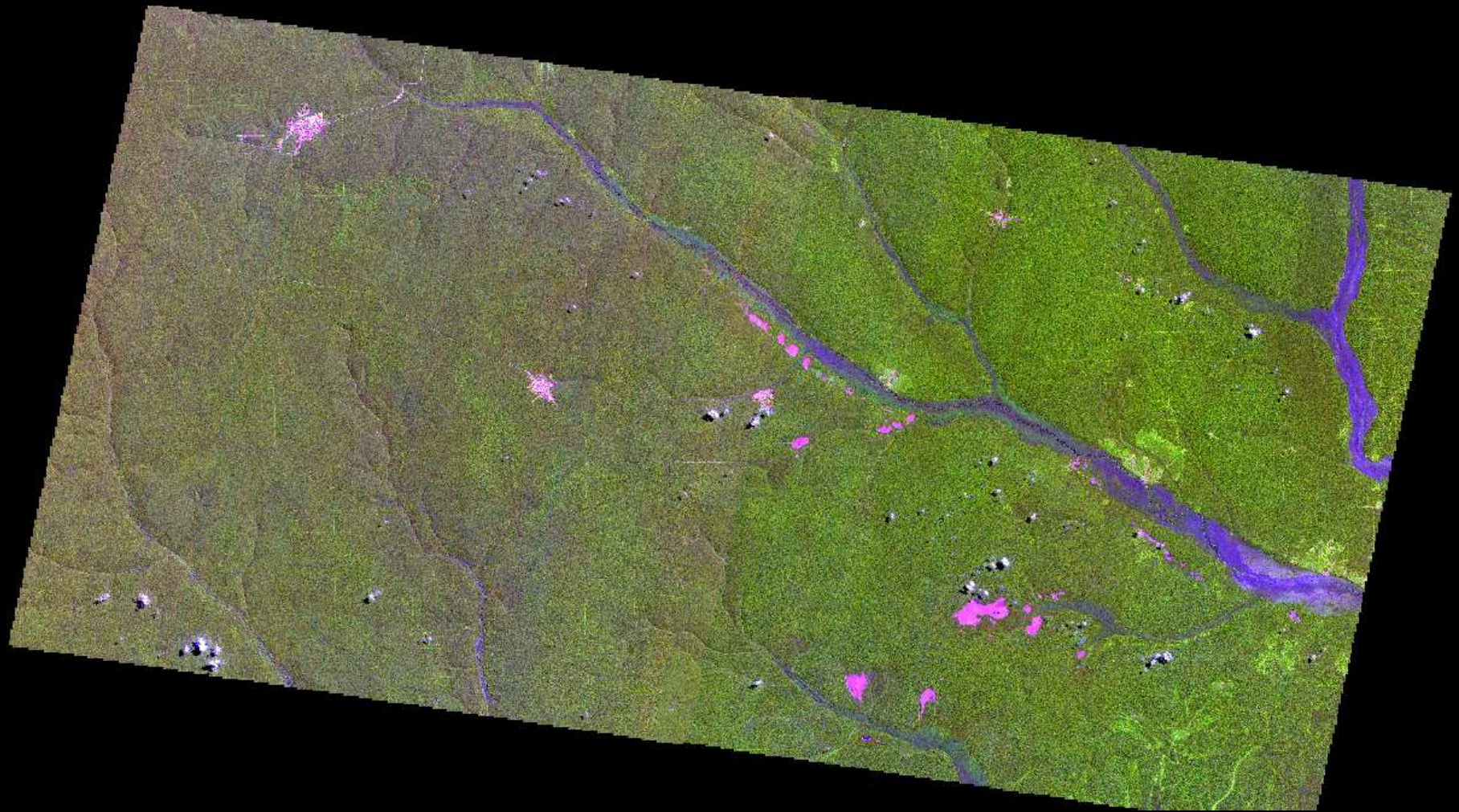
Semi-deciduous forests (>40% deciduous)



Structure and functioning of forest types are identified with 37.898 inventory plots (1/2 ha)



Spot-4 (Take-5) data, Congo-1



Geology, Congo-1

Carnot sandstones

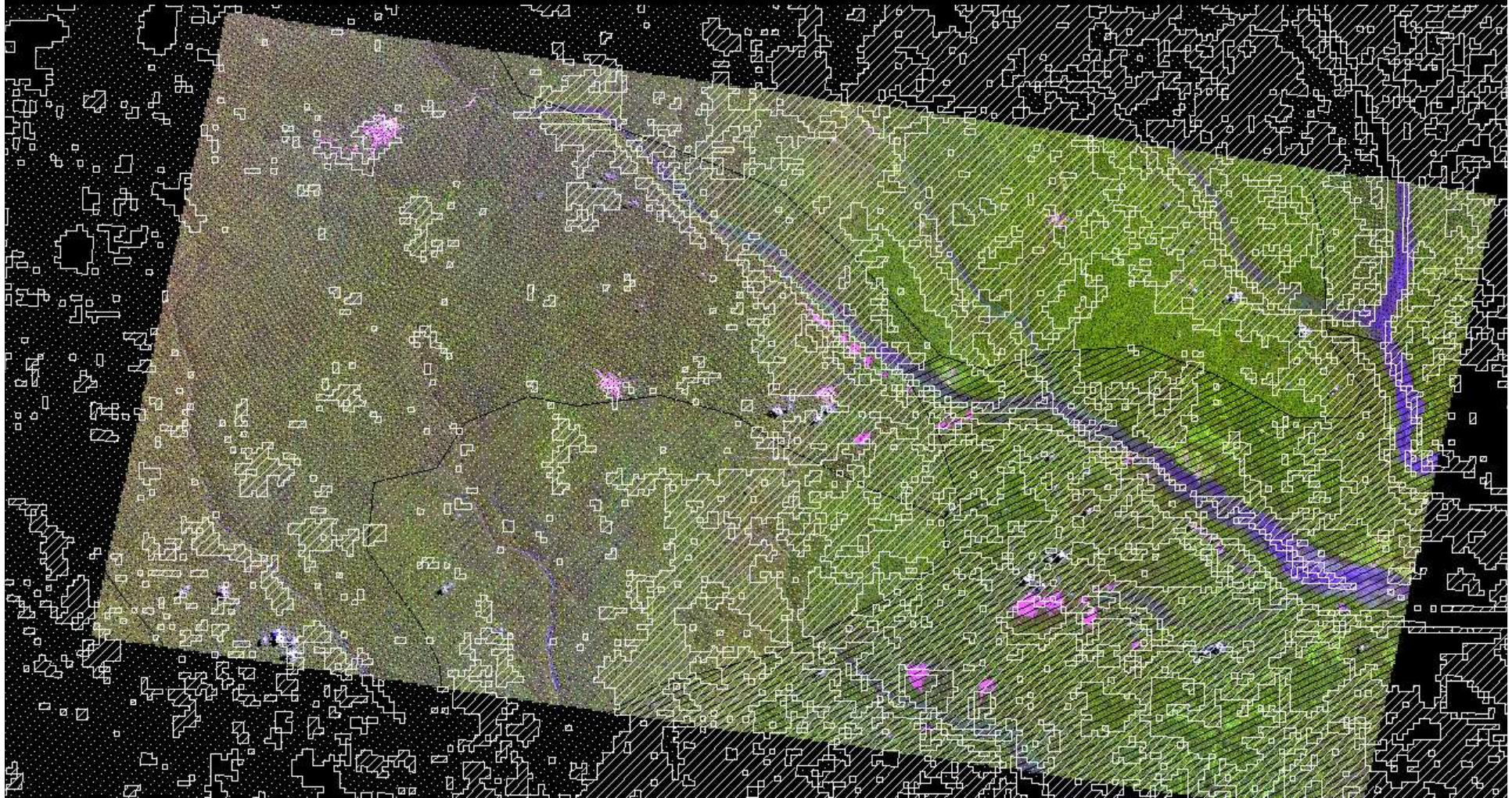
Bambio sandstones

Metamorphic rocks (Quartzite)

Congo basin alluvium



Forest types (from MODIS), Congo-1



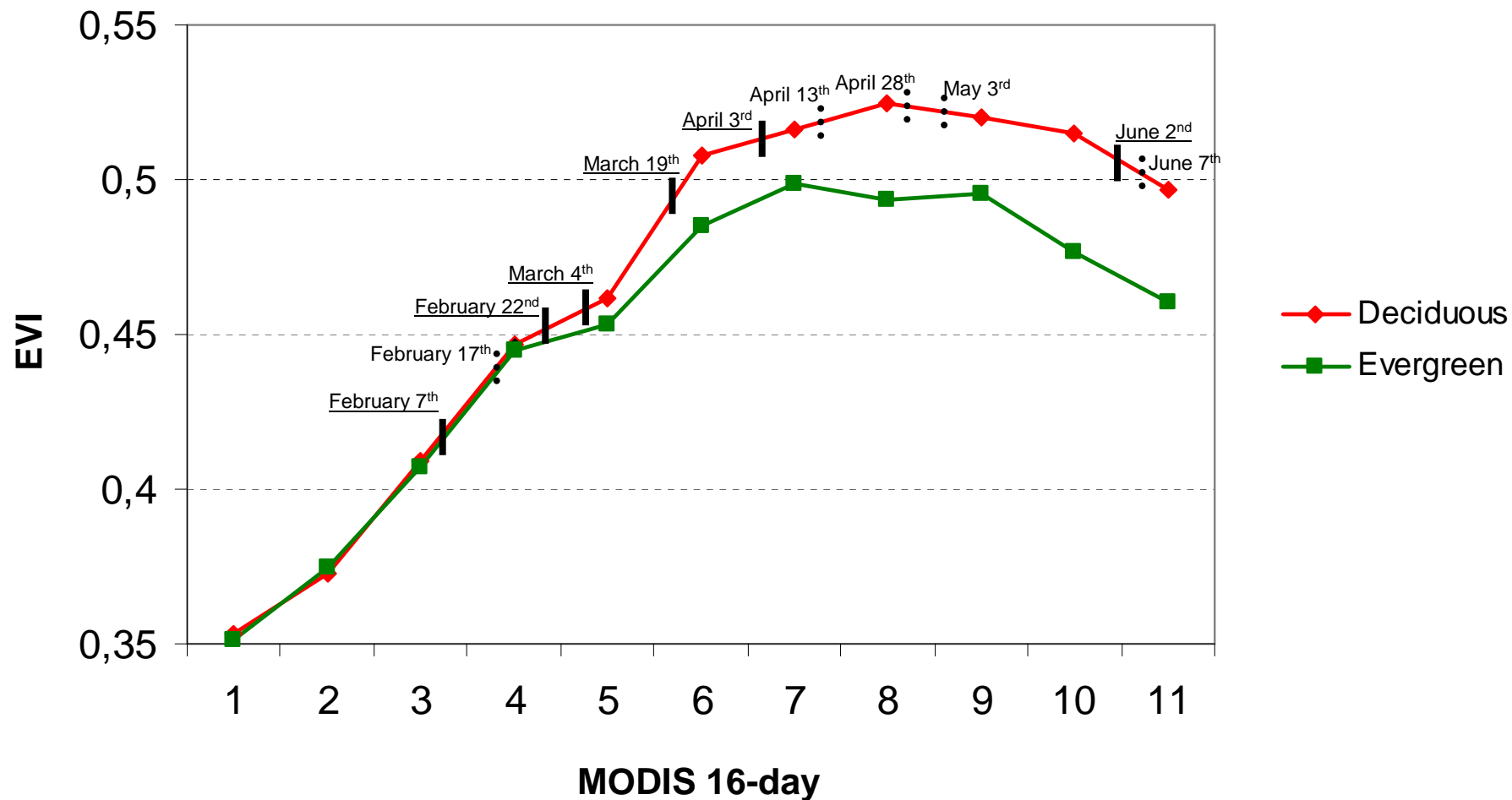
Evergreen forests (<30% deciduous)

Semi-deciduous forests (>40% deciduous)



MODIS and Spot-4 temporal acquisitions (Take-5), Congo-1

Temporal acquisitions, Congo-1



Specific challenges with Spot-4 (Take-5) data, Congo-1

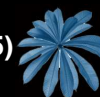
Very satisfactory Spot-4 (Take-5) data set acquisition

- In time (good description of central period with begin and end period acquisition to complete the data set)
- In space (the two forest types are correctly observed)

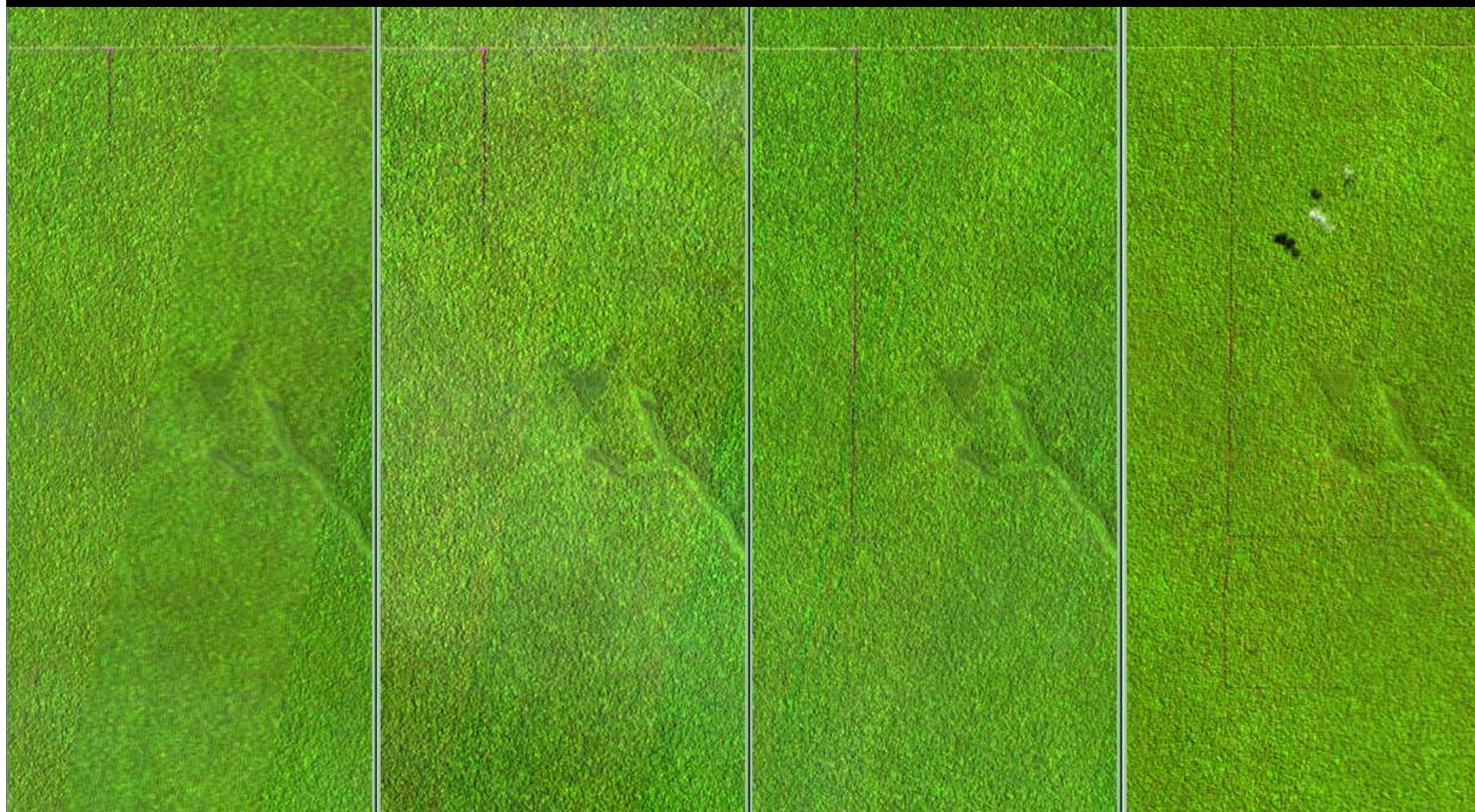
Questions are:

- Will the temporal profiles obtained with Spot-4 (Take-5) confirm the ones obtained using MODIS?
- What additional information on phenology can be provided using Spot-4 (Take-5) in order to better understand the spatial distribution of tropical forest types?

Other pathways to use Sentinel-2 (Spot-4 (Take-5)):



Monitoring logging activities : forest tracks



March 4th

April 3rd

April 13th

June 2nd

30 days

10 days

50 days

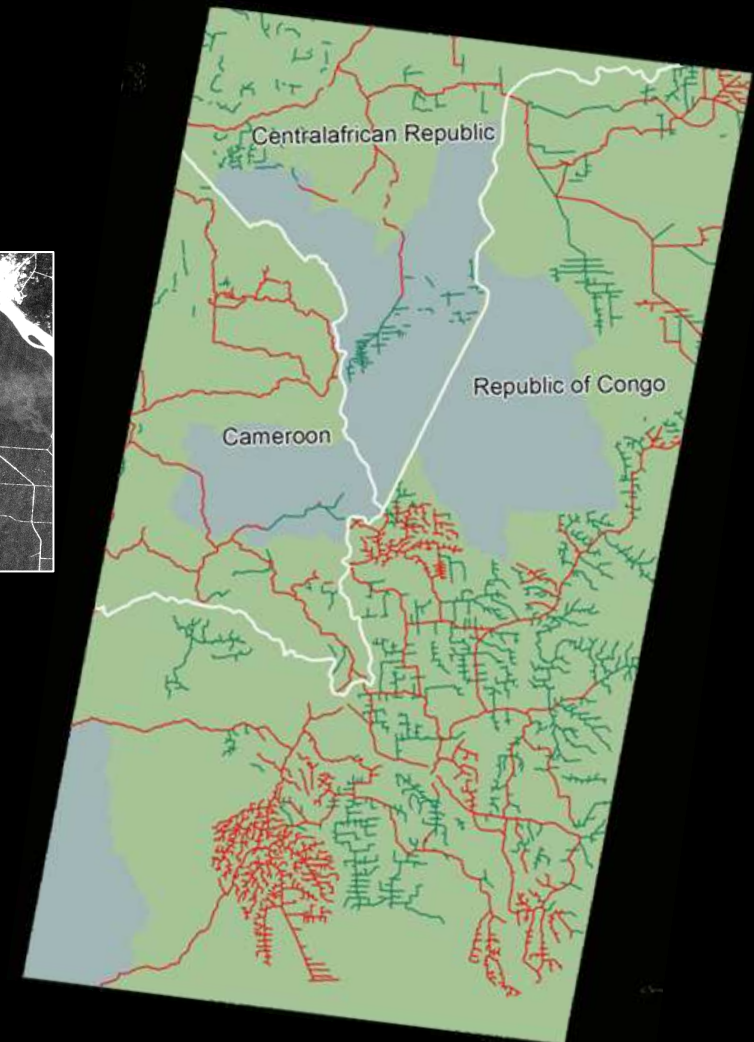
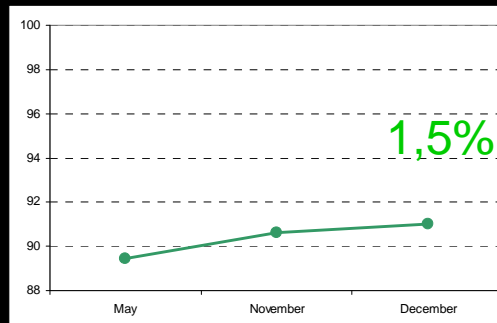
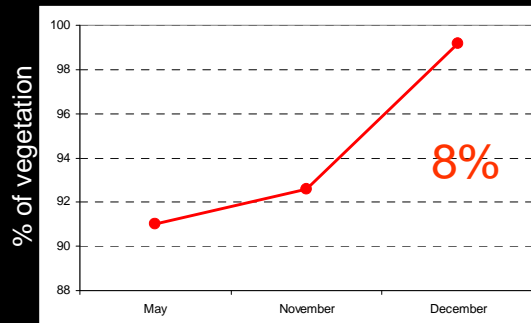
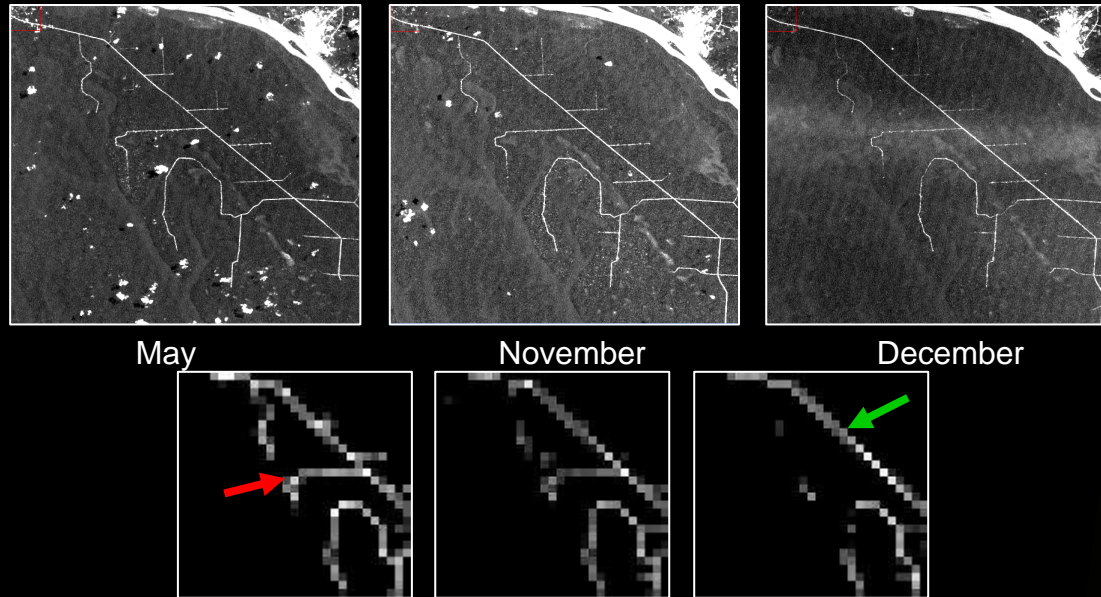
Opening

Logging

Spot-4 (Take 5)
Congo 1



Monitoring logging activities : road networks

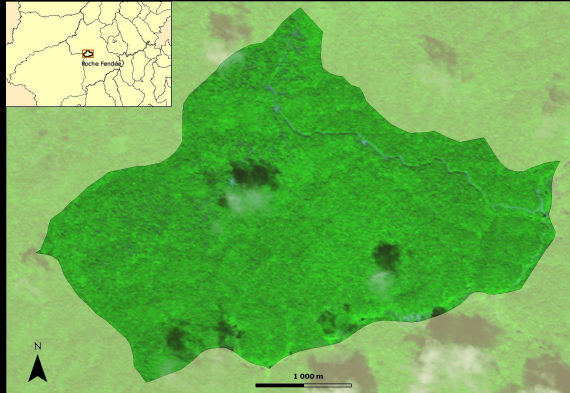


Ecological process of
vegetation recovery

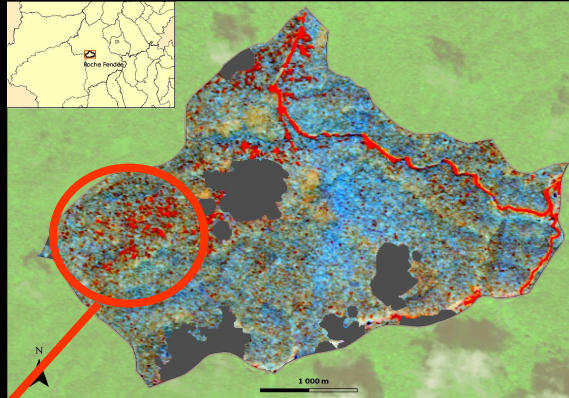


Monitoring logging activities : logging impacts

SPOT-5, RFE-65 plot
November 7th, 2010



Multi-index color composite
(NDVI, NDWI and MIR)

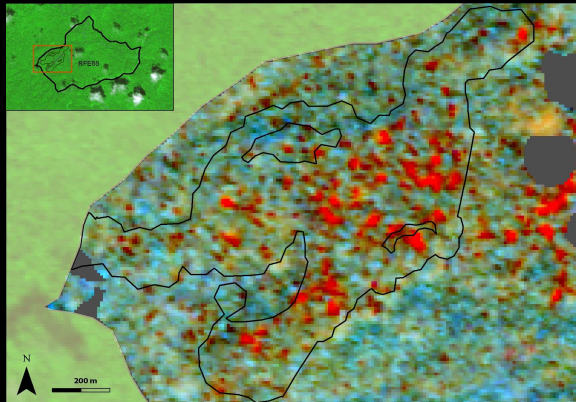


In French Guiana, 10.000 ha
are exploited per year

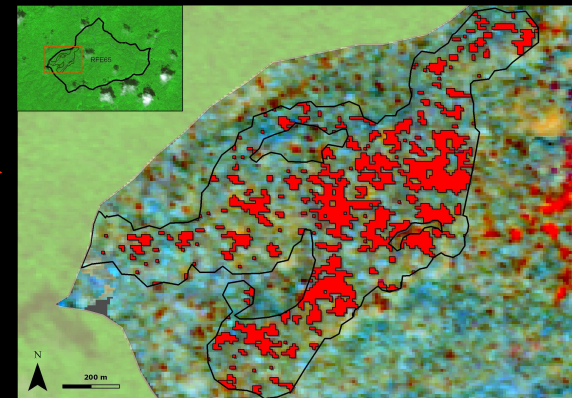
Thanks to the SEAS reception station
these areas are regularly monitored
using SPOT-5 (10m)

Development of a Timber Quality
Index within the certification framework
(PEFC and FSC)

Production Unit (78ha)



Impacted areas digitalization



From Spot / Sentinel-2

20,8ha impacted (26,6%)

From logger

308 trees for 1550 m³

Timber statistics

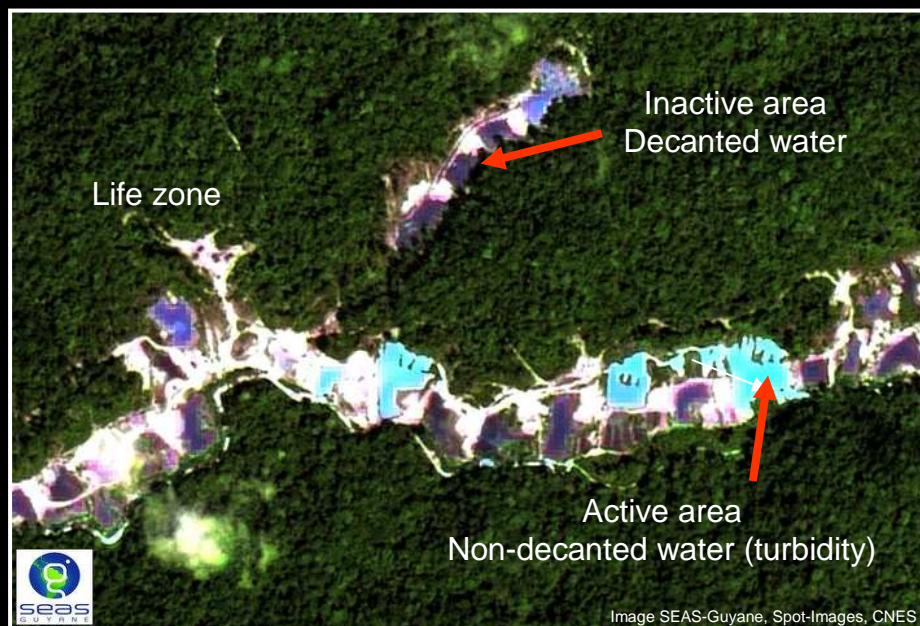
3,9 trees/ha and 19,8 m³/ha (5m³/tree)

Timber Quality index

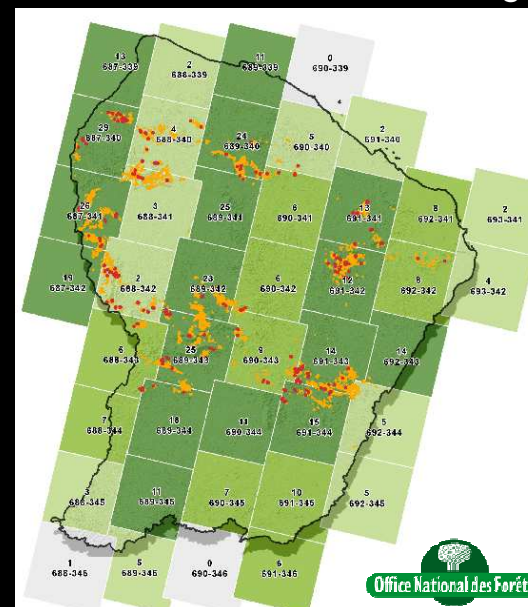
675m² impacted per tree
134m² impacted per m³



Illegal small-scale gold mining monitoring



Gold mining map (2012)



Used images

2008: 219

2009: 283

2010: 419

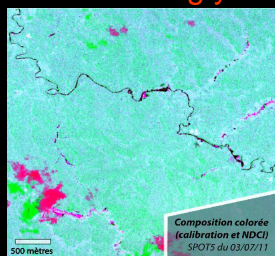
2011: 149

2012: 160

1.230 images

Mining Activity Observatory (2008-2013)

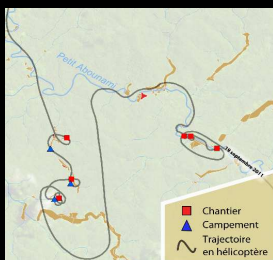
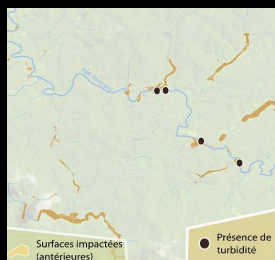
Active mining yard



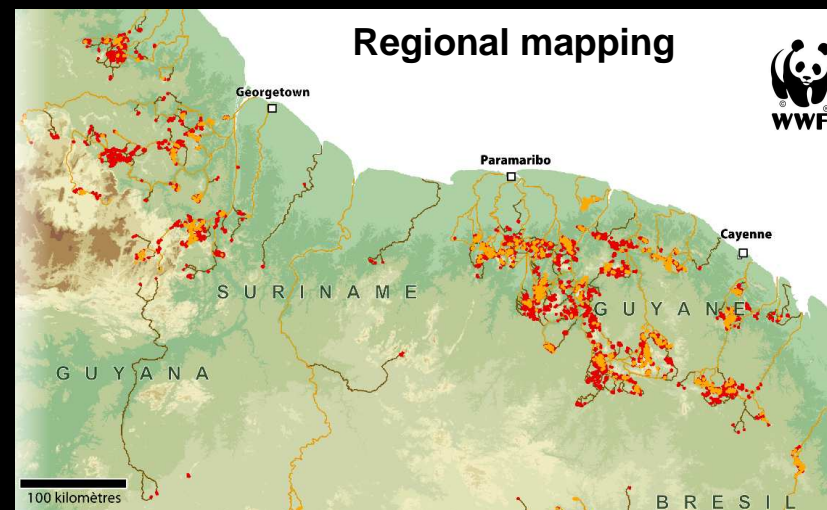
Impacted areas



Validation



Regional mapping



Export technique

Spot-4 (Take 5)
Congo 1



Next steps

Starting work during Spring 2014:

- Geo-database development joining remotely sensed data (MODIS and Spot-4 (Take-5), forest inventories, meteorological data)
- Choose specific forest types sectors to extract temporal profiles from Spot-4 (Take-5) images (reflectance, vegetation index)
- Statistical comparison between MODIS and Spot-4 (Take-5) temporal profiles
- Analyzing for each forest types phenological phases and determining the ecological process
- Developing forest management recommendations at timber plot scale within the continuous acquisition data program at high temporal and spatial resolution (Sentinel-2)



Thank you for your attention

